At Concordia ...

Researchers may have key to safe PCB disposal

by Aaron Derfel

A group of Concordia scientists say they may have discovered a safe and cheap way of destroying PCBs in oil so that it can be recycled.

Research vice-rector Cooper Langford said Concordia is the only university in Quebec working on this research. Although the three scientists have studied the project since last March, Langford said it looks highly promising.

"The key to our process is that we do it under mild conditions," he said, explaining that the scientists have been able to destroy PCBs (polychlorinated biphyenyls) at under 100 degrees centigrade, or around boiling temperature.

The scientists have disintegrated PCBs in miniscule amounts of oil using a mixture of nitric and sulphuric acid while heating the toxic chemical compound with microwaves. After the chemical reaction, the PCBs disappear, leaving the oil uncontaminated.

The most widely used method of destroying PCBs is by burning them at 1,200 degrees centigrade. But Langford said the incineration method is costly, destroys PCB-laced oil, and is potentially dangerous.

One of the scientists working on the project, associate biology professor Perry Anderson, said they may be able to remove PCBs from electrical transformers without destroying the equipment. He said the process, called photo-mineralization, can also work with other hazardous chemicals.

"In principle everything seems to be working very well, but we have to get in the actual products that are being used by firms such as Hydro-Quebec," Anderson said. "We have yet to complete the work on samples of the nature that they use in transformers."

The scientists did not begin the research in response to the PCB warehouse fire in St. Basile le Grand last August, but stumbled on the discovery while studying something else. The PCB fire forced 3,500 residents from their homes for 17 days and sent a toxic cloud over the region.

Langford said Concordia is applying for a research patent and is negotiating a grant with Hydro-Quebec.

Hydro environment vice-president Louis Philippe Roy said the utility is interested in the Concordia research but added the university has not yet demonstrated the method can work on a large scale.

"It's a chemical reaction which has worked on a laboratory scale but it has to be tested on a larger scale and this is far from being done," Roy said.

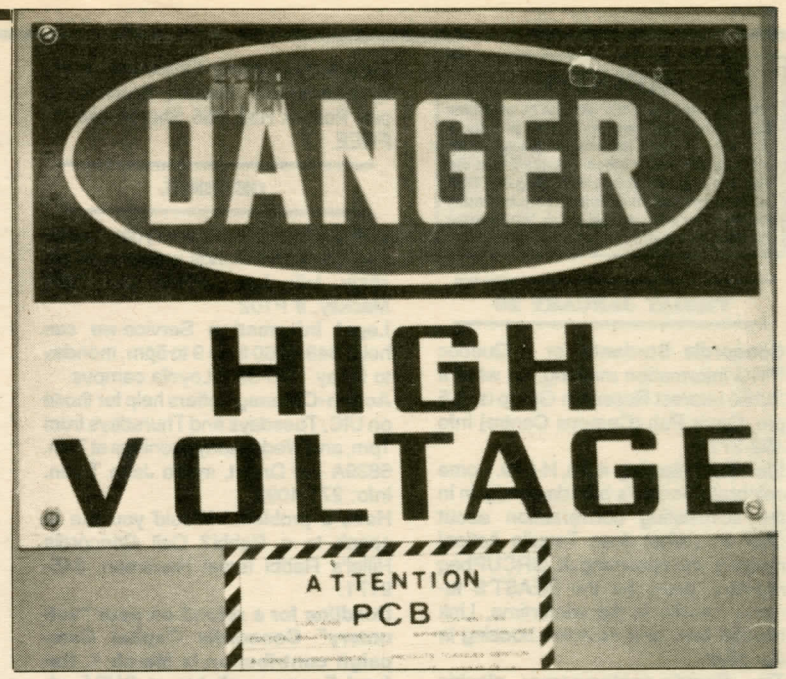
Hydro has already destroyed PCBs in one million litres of mineral oil in transformers using substance such as metallic sodium.

The scientists have done consulting work with New Lite, a chemical research firm in London, Ontario, which is developing a way of removing PCBs from water.

New Lite general manager Mike Robertson said five companies in Canada, including Ontario Hydro, already destroy PCBs with metallic sodium, which explodes when mixed with water.

"What is different about what Concordia is doing is that their approach is a whole lot safer," Robertson said. "There's nothing to blow up."

PCBs can cause liver and reproductive disorders and are suspected of causing cancer. PCBs were widely used as a coolant in electrical equipment until 1977, when the federal government banned them after fears were raised about their potential health hazards.



A team of Concordia researchers is working on a safe and cheap process to destroy PCBs.

the Link

Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 9, Number 27
Friday, January 20, 1989

Study Session Sunday

ANEEQ studying language issue

by Scott McCulloch

Quebec's largest student association is preparing an official position on Quebec's controversial sign law.

The Association national des étudiants et étudiantes du Québec (ANEEQ) will be discussing Bill 101 and Bill 178 at its general assembly Sunday.

According to ANEEQ executive Stephane Lessard, Sunday's meeting will "look beyond" the sign issue and address questions of language in the work place and individual collective rights of Quebec students.

"We want to go beyond the sign issue and look at the collective rights of students, be they francophone, anglophone or allophone," Lessard said.

In the past, ANEEQ has only informally addressed the language issue. Sunday's meeting will be the first time it takes concrete measures on the language debate.

Lessard said heated debate on the issue throughout the province has prompted ANEEQ to study the recent watering down of Bill 101 and its implications on Quebec students.

He stressed that Sunday's meeting is merely a "study session" and ANEEQ will only be tabling proposals on how to approach the language issue.

"It is not a question of our position on the bill," said Lessard, "we will be tabling guidlines to approach the issue in order to benifit students. The meeting will be essentially a process of consultation."

Although some student groups have demonstrated their dismay with Premier Robert Bourassa's handling of the language issue, ANEEQ is not planning demonstrations.

Last Wednesday, about thirty francophone students marched outside the CBC building and the Gazette to protest against Bill 178.

Bill 178, adopted just before Christmas, bans most English outdoor commercial signs but allows some bilingual signs indoors.

Cash coming for down and out

by Mitch Albert

Temporary relief for down and out Concordia students is now available in the form of the Emergency Loans Program at the Dean of Students Office.

"The loan is designed for students who are having an immediate cash flow problem and who do not receive government aid," said CUSA student life vice president Hernani Farias.

Students can get up to $200 through the new program. Since the beginning of the semester about fifty loans have been handed out.

"Let's face it, $150 to $200 isn't going to pull you through university," said CCSL administrative assistant Shirley Maines. "But if your cheque hasn't come in yet, or if you haven't eaten this week, it will help."

A total of $28,500 will be available through the program. The Concordia Council on Student Life will provide $15,000, CUSA $10,000, the Graduate Students' Association $2,000 and the Engineering/Computer Science Association $1,500.

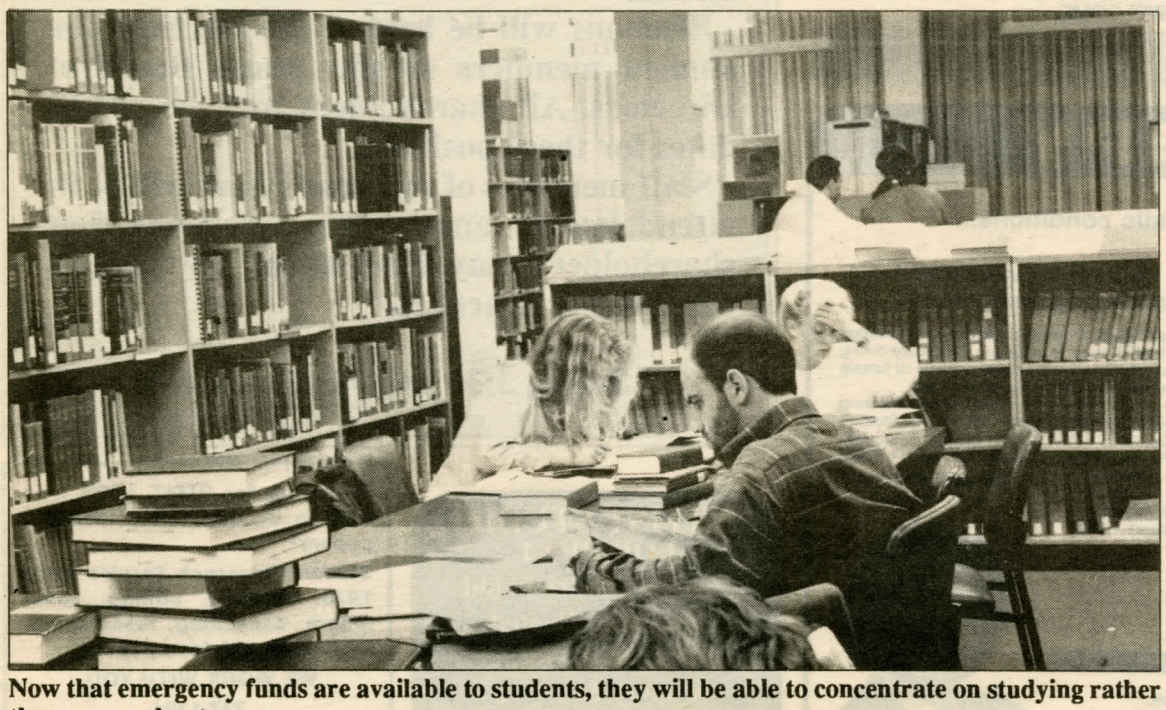
Interest will be one per cent per month. If a student has not repaid the loan after two months, a one time 10 per cent penalty will be slapped onto the outstanding debt.

The penalty clause is necessary to weed out potential abusers of the plan, Farias said. The idea is to penalize "not those who can't pay back, but those who just don't care" to do so.

Right now regular government loans and bursaries are available only to full-time students whose parents meet certain financial criteria.

Out of the 7,000 Concordia students who applied for government aid last year, about 4,200 students received help.

Hernani said that if the program is a success it is likely that CUSA and CCSL will contribute more money to the loan fund.



Now that emergency funds are available to students, they will be able to concentrate on studying rather than worry about money.

AGENDA

The Agenda is a FREE service to publicise Concordia-related events. Space priority is given to non-profit and student groups. Drop off your info at our office in room 649 in the Hall Building, or mail it in, indicating AGENDA on the envelope. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's paper.

FRIDAY JANUARY 20

Concordia Students for a Quebec PIRG information meeting, on what a Public Interest Research Group is. 3-5 pm, Oasis Pub (Campus Centre) Info 482-5778.

Link Staff Meeting- 4 pm, H-649. Come celebrate Scottie's birthday and join in the scintillating conversation about CUP 51 (What does Tequila Action! mean?), the upcoming Jt. ORCUPbeq regional, plans for the BEAST'S funeral, Lacolle in the wintertime, Link boycott lists, and no more boozing in the office.

The Beards-contemporary electric jazz, Reggies Pub. Info 270-2475.

Kindred yet Distinct Disciplines-Jungian Psychology and Psychosynthesis: Valerie Broege. Hall-435, 8 pm, $5 students. Sponsored by the C.G.Jung Society. Info 280-3441.

MONDAY JANUARY 23

The position of Franco-Ontarians with Christianne Rabier from Laurentian University, 12 noon, H-769. Sponsored by Political Science dept.

Amnesty International meeting for co-ordinator and those interested in joining the human rights movement, 5 pm, H-333-6.

Concordia Animal Rights Assoc general meeting. H-333-6, 6 pm, everyone welcome.

Catherine Bates, addresses the Canadian Authors' Association, Concordia Faculty Club, Hall 7th floor, 7:30 pm. $3 non-members. Info 932-6717

Surviving the Holocaust- Working Through Trauma Using the Expessive Modalities with Pierre Boening, 8 pm, Visual Arts Building, room 210, 1395 Rene Levesque Blvd. Part of the Facets of Art Education and Art Therapy series.

Daniela Guidice, piano, works by Chopin, Rachmaninoff, Schumann, 8 pm, Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke W. FREE. Part of the Radio-Canada "Jeunes Artistes" series.

Collegium Musicum, works by Haydn, Reicha, Abel, Stamitz, Mozart. 8 pm, Redpath Hall, 3461 McTavish, FREE.

TUESDAY JANUARY 24

Concordia Jewish Student Union regular meeting, 3 pm, H-333-6, Everyone encouraged to attend. info: 848-7492.

McGill Symphony Orchestra: works by Hambraeus, Mozart, Bruckner. 8 pm, Pollack Hall, 555 Sherbrooke W. FREE.

GENERAL

LGFC Office is open everyday. Lesbians, gays and friends welcome to sit, study, talk, have coffee, etc. 2020 Mackay, # P102

Legal Information Service-we can help- 848-4960 from 9 to 5pm, monday to friday. CC-326, Loyola campus.

Action-Chomage offers help for those on UIC, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1pm, and Wednesday evenings at 7pm. 6839A rue Drolet, metro Jean Talon. Info: 271-4099.

Have a problem? Would you like to speak to a Rabbi? Call Concordia Hillel's Rabbi Isreal Hausman, 845-9171.

Deadline for a refund on your "voluntary" Concordia Capital Campaign contribution is March 1. Refund Forms available at CUSA offices.

Concordia's Cinema Students Assoc is starting an actor's talent bank. This is to aid in casting the more than 150 films made each year. Please send your C.V. and a photo to the C.S.A. in Cafe X in the VA building on Crescent and Rene Levesque.

THE 1989 HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE: Your features, poetry, comments, prose, news stories, fiction, photos, artwork, ideas are most welcomed! Come talk to one of the Link editors about your ideas. Deadline for submissions is February 1.

Save the Rainforest- anyone concerned about destruction of the world's rainforests is invited to participate in an action/letter writing group. Mary 495-9257 eves.

Robert Bowers: Recent Sculpture/ Irving Layton: Selected Writings, Concordia Art Gallery Jan 12 - Feb 18, FREE.

STUDY SKILLS- 2 session workshops starting January 25, day or evening. Register at Concordia Guidance Services, Hall-440. FREE.

Hillel Volleyball starts again Jan 16, 5-7 pm Mondays Birks Hall gym, Norris Bldg. Info 848-7492.

Maria Jankovics (FA student)major exhibition of works, Complexe Guy-Favreau(Conference Room-Metro Level) January 4-30. rene-Levesque Blvd, everyone welcome, 276-8116.

Montreal AIDS Support Committee needs volunteers , especially in the Buddy program, professional counselling and legal aid areas. For more info contact Louis Pontbriand. 282-9888.

VAV Gallery- Katja McLoed and Nicole Lebel, Jan 16-20.

Writing Workshops-learn effective strategies for academic papers and essay exams. FREE 3-session workshops begin Jan 19 &26, day or evening. Register at Guidance Services, Hall-440.

Undergraduate In-Course Bursary forms are now available at Financial Aid Office. They are awarded to students with high academic achievment and demonstrated financial need. Deadline Jan 31.

Volunteers needed for Skating With The Blind Friday mornings. Info 848-3587

Simone de Beauvoir. The BULLETIN/ NEWSLETTER wants a) short written pieces or drawings by current Women's Studies students and b) news of former Simone de Beauvoir students for an issue with the theme "Students Past and Present." Deadline: Feb 15. Info Marlean 848-2373.

Concordia Singles(25+) Informal discussion meetings, Thursday 8pm, 2030 Mackay. Info 453-5932.

EXPOSURE: small scale art exhibit, non-fine art students wanted. Call 848-2280.

BLOOD DRIVE with CASA & the Red Cross, January 24&25, Loyola Campus Centre. The Red Cross **REALLY** needs blood, so go and give.

Decision Science (DESC 244) tutorial services will be held in H-535-2, 3-5pm, Friday & Saturday Jan 20 & 21

WOMENS' LISTINGS

Lesbian Studies at Concordia! Come and find out about a non-heterosexist education! All lesbians and women, students, faculty or staff welcome! Ongoing Wednesdays, 3 pm, 2170 Bishop, lounge.
Jan 17- Lesbian Feminist Poetry reading- Carolyn Gammon, followed by discussion. Feb 1- Scruples- A Lesbian game of moral dilemmas. Come & play!

We are back this year with renewed energy and are looking forward to welcoming new members. For more info: 848-7443. Watch for info on meetings and events on the Women's Collective.

Women's Narcotics Anonymous, Thursdays at 7:30 pm, 2020 Mackay. Info 845-1035 or 848-7431 (Beverly) message.

Black Women's Collective weekly meetings, Fridays at 6 pm, P-307, 2020 Mackay. Open to all women of colour. Info Nancy DeGraff 848-7474 (message)

Katja Macleod 2020Mackay, info 848-7431. Exhibit runs to Feb 23.

Women's Discussion Group-Wednesdays 10-11h30 until Mar 15-forum for sharing ideas, issues to be discussed determined by group members, limited to 12 women. Pre-register info Beverly 481-4088 or Gwen 334-7367.

Celebrating Women's Powers-Women's Centre of Montreal is organising a series of gatherings to celebrate women's strengths through rituals and affirmations. Info Peggy Niloff 842-1067.

Archives & Women's Groups-with Nancy Marrelli. Open to all CUSA women's groups, 14h30, Jan 20, at Women's Centre.

CUSA Women's Groups general meeting-Jan 20,open to all group members, 16h30, Women's Centre, info 848-7431.

Women's Collective Wine & Cheese. Friday Jan 20, 6 pm, 2020 Mackay P Annex(women's Centre) EVERYONE WELCOME.

WANTED

Copies of the following *Link* issues:

- Number 6 (Sept. 23, 1988) Special Sports Supplement
- Number 23 (Dec. 5, 1988) Christmas Issue.

H-649/848-7405. Ask for Francesca or Minty.

CLASSIFIED ADS

We do NOT take classifieds by phone. Rates: 20 cents a word for Concordia students, 25 cents per word for non-students and business ads. Deadlines are 5 p.m. Friday for Tuesday's issue, and 5 p.m. Wednesday for Friday's issue. Come to room 649 in the Hall Building, to fill out one of our painless ad forms. Ads MUST be accompanied by payment, or they will not run.

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HELP WANTED

MacIntosh Experts needed at the Link. If you have MacExperience, we need volunteers to help out with layout and design using Pagemaker. Come by or call the Link (Rm 649, Hall building - 848-7405) Ask for Andy.

BARTENDERS training courses and placement service. LUCRATIVE part-time jobs. 849-2828 (STUDENT DISCOUNTS)

Healthy Male Volunteers 18-30 yrs needed for food/drug study at McGill. Payment $60 call & leave message 398-7301.

Fine Arts student or calligrapher wanted to handwrite 10-15 wedding invitations. Call 482-7354 Karen or leave message.

APARTMENTS

Room to Rent, female preferred. 486-4831.

Bright, sunny 4 1/2 to share with female. One block from Metro Charlevoix- $142.50 monthly 765-3833

Two males, students, NDG, 8 1/2, seek roomate, $150, Feb 1, references, 488-9736.

Female will share lower triplex with clean, quiet non-smoker. Near St.Henri metro. 739-3447.

SERVICES

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Is something going on at Concordia that pisses you off? We want to hear

continued on page 6

The Link Publication Society Board of Directors semi-anual meeting

AGENDA
1. General Business
2. Elections to the Board

The Society is an autonomous student corporation. All Concordia undergraduate students who pay the student fee levy are shareholders in the society and are encouraged to attend.

Elections will be held at the meeting for student members on this year's Board of Directors. All shareholders may be candidates for these positions.

Staff members of this year's *Link* will be in attendance to answer any questions that shareholders may have about the paper's content and practices.

Today, 3:30 pm -- Room H-649.

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Battle of the acronyms

ANEEQ may face CFS competition

Montreal (CUP) — Leaders of Quebec's student federation were in Ottawa January 15 to try to calm the political waves made when Canada's federal student organisation decided to accept Quebec members.

"Historically, (the Canadian Federation of Students) has always recognized the right of Quebec students to organise separately, " said Association nationales des etudiantes et etudiants du Quebec (ANEEQ) executive Stephane Lessard.

"It's unfortunate that (CFS) has failed to recognise that there is a different historical and social context which has influenced the development of the student movement in Quebec," he said.

Delegates to the CFS general meeting in November voted to accept Quebec members, reversing a long-standing policy which lapsed in 1987.

"It's always going to be a politically thorny question," said CFS chairs Beth Brown. "(ANEEQ) is going to have to figure out what it wants to do."

Right after the conference, an association representing about 4,000 management, law, engineering and economics students at the Universite de Sherbrooke applied for and was given prospective membership with CFS.

ANEEQ responded with a long letter criticizing the decision.

Brown said CFS has stayed out of Quebec partly because of divisions within the province's student movement.

"When there were three national student organisations running around, we were faced with the problem of who to affiliate with," she said.

But with the demise of the Regroupement des associations des etudiants universitaires and the Federation des associations des etudiants du Quebec, that problem is gone.

U de Sherbrooke association president Eric Caron said his group's executive decided to join CFS to get representation at the federal level and because ANEEQ could not represent them, either in Quebec or nationally.

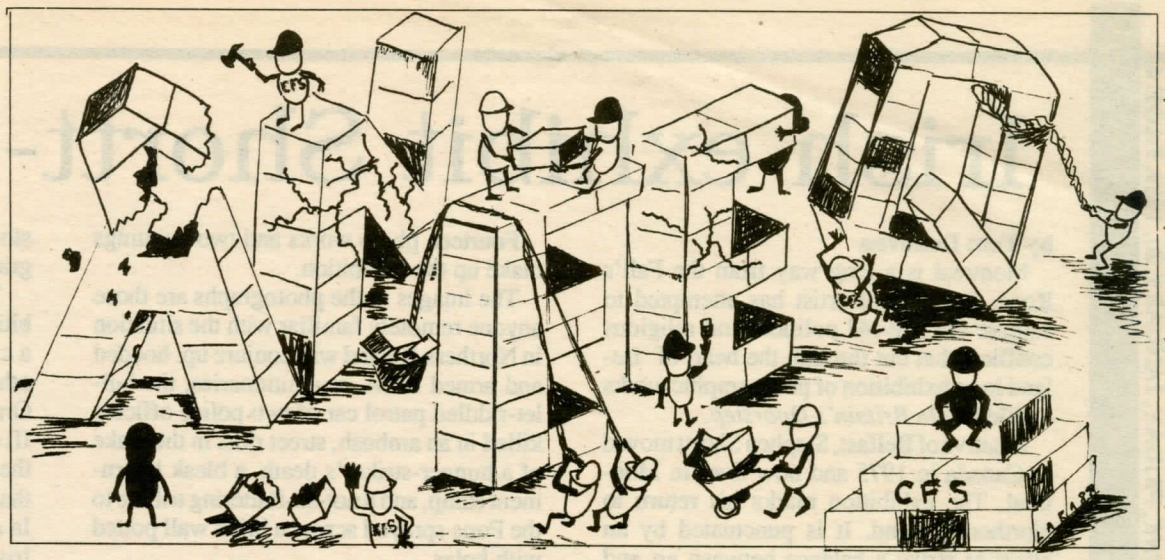
"My members don't support ANEEQ at all," Caron said. "It's too CEGEP-oriented. University students are not interested in doing a strike every two years."

(ANEEQ's members called a week-long strike earlier this year, demanding the provincial government reform the student aid system and maintain a tuition fee freeze in effect since 1969.)

"I don't want there to be any damage done to the student movement in Quebec or in the rest of the country," Brown said. "I just want to work things out.

"I don't think we will have to repent, I hope not."

Said Lessard" "there is a process of rapprochement that has begun between the two organisations. And we can work together for our common interests."



Two months later...

Gay games OK at UBC

Vancouver (CUP) — Reversing an earlier decision, University of British Columbia president David Strangway will allow the Gay Games on-campus.

Strangway announced his decision in a December 1 letter to Gay Games director Ken Smith.

Strangway originally refused to rent UBC space in September. "If it's a political statement they're trying to make, I don't think the university is the place to make political statements," he said at the time.

The president added that he couldn't understand why gay athletes didn't participate in "normal" athletic events: "Why should we become involved in a third variant of activites?"

The third international gay games will bring 5,000 athletes from around the world to Vancouver in August, 1990.

Smith said he's happy about the decision being reversed. "I'm sure it was because of our meeting before the board," referring to an October get-together between Smith, area New Democratic MP Svend Robinson and the UBC board of governors.

Strangway was unavailable for comment. But Don Whitely, the university's new bureau manger, said Strangway's attitude towards the Gay Games has not change. "He still didn't want UBC to host or sponsor the games."

Strangway's refusal to support the games did not have much effect on gay students at the university, according to Patrick Le Cerf of the Gays and Lesbians of UBC (GLC).

Lesbians and gays who have come out of the closet and are "comfortable with their sexuality" were unaffected by Strangway's remarks, he said. But the president's comments "might have a devastating effect" on a first-year students who has not yet come out.

Mark Livesay of GLC said Strangway did not represent "the opinion of the majority on this campus. Every once in a while some dinosour's gonna stick his head up somewhere."

But Livesay said Strangway's initial refusal of the games bothered him. "He was putting up one big vote for ignorance."

Another GLC member, Anthony Berno, said the games will be a "very, very positive thing for UBC" because they will provide an opportunity for straights to learn that gays are "regular guys like you and me."

The Gays and Lesbians of UBC did not comment on the controversy earlier because game organisers feared negotiations might be jeopardized, according to GLC treasurer Robb York.

News Briefs

Only one woman running

Vancouver (CUP) — The university of British Columbia's student board of governor and senator-at-large elections are just around the corner and only one of the 14 candidates is a woman.

Wendy King is running for senator-at-large amongst 10 men. Four other men are vying for board of governors in this week's elections. The ratio in the race for council faculty representatives is slightly better with five women out of 15 candidates.

Student council president Tim Bird said the inequities strike him "as a little bit odd.

"Especially at a university, of all places. I think there are a lot of issues that concern women in a different way then they do men," said Bird, citing pay equity and advancement, daycare, sexual harassment, campus safety and the possibility of a UBC abortion clinic as examples of women's issues dealt with at the board level.

As it stands, the board of governors is predominantly male, with 11 men and two women.

"How can a group of men sit around and make a decision on an issue like abortion?" said Bird, who is hoping to be elected to a spot on the board of governors.

Last year, seven men ran for board of governors and six for senator-at-large. There were no female candidates.

Exam stress causes riot

Vancouver (CUP) — A riot in a University of British Columbia student residence provoked by final exam stress has led to at least one eviction.

The December outburst in Walter Gage Towers, a three-building complex with 1400 tenants, began around 10 p.m. when a study-stressed student stuck his head out the window and shouted, "I can't take it anymore."

Other students responded, and were soon banging pot lids and unravelling toilet paper streamers.

Students tossed their notes like confetti. A Christmas tree was offered by one floor and others joined in to create a fireworks display, according to one witness.

The ruckus continued for over one hour.

Residence life co-ordinator and student Rick Oliver said residents who threw dangerous objects — such as bottles — out of the window of the three 17-storey residences would be fined $50 and evicted. At least one student has already been thrown out, according to Oliver, and two other evictions are pending.

"Three years ago the situation was really bad, with people throwing stuff out the windows all the time, so we brought in the automatic eviction policy, because it was just a matter of time before someone got badly injured," said Oliver.

Posters are offering $50 rewards for information on violations.

In some cases administrators were able to pin down the apartment, but not the individual students responsible. The six apartment tenants were then given an ultimatum to turn in the guilty student or face eviction of the entire apartment.

"It's a perversion of justice," said on resident. "What they have done is reverse the onus, from their having to prove guilt, to the students in these situations having to prove their own innocence."

"I doubt if (Housing) would evict a (whole apartment) if it came down to it," said the student.

In 1974 an entire apartment was evicted after guests at their party threw bottles out the window.

Irish exhibit Shortt-sighted

by Tom Donovan

Montreal is a long way from the Fall's Road. But a local artist has attempted to capture the age-old political and religious conflicts that cut through the heart of Ireland in an exhibition of photographic works entitled *...On Britain's Doorstep*.

A native of Belfast, Stephen Shortt moved to Canada in 1975 and now lives in Montreal. The exhibition marks his return to Northern Ireland. It is punctuated by an effort to strike a balance between art and politics, form and content. The result ends up reading more like a photo-journalism essay.

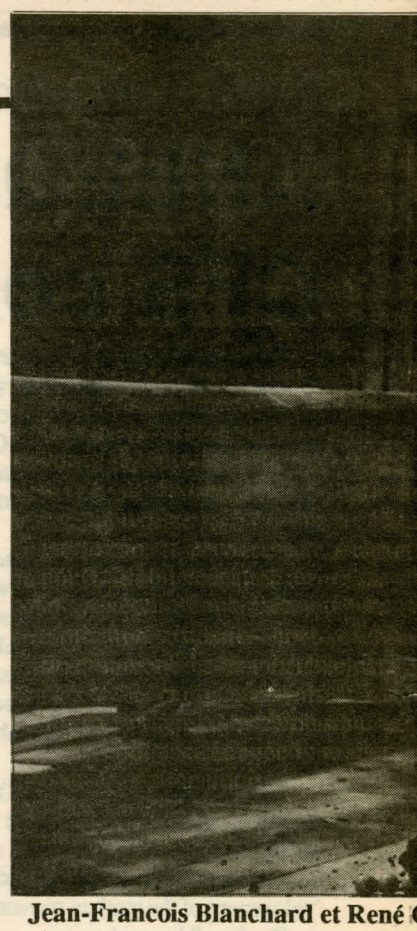
Fourteen photo works and two paintings make up the exhibition.

The images in the photographs are those anyone remotely familiar with the situation in Northern Ireland will conjure up: hooded and armed I.R.A. revolutionaries, the bullet-riddled patrol car of two police officers killed in an ambush, street riots in the wake of a hunger-striker's death, a bleak internment camp, and a not-so-flattering tribute to the Pope sprayed across a brick wall potted with holes.

In all of the photo pieces, Shortt combines these grim images with even more dismal subtext. They range in content from the pessimistic utterances of Protestant and Catholic folk alike, to the superimposition of news stories and hand-written lines on the photographs.

The two banners that complete the exhibition exist almost as an afterthought. One is a crude black graphite map of Ireland; the other, a painting of the crest of a Loyal Orange Lodge. The latter, depicts William III crossing the river Boyne on horseback to the galloping spirit of the Orangeman's oath that reads "No surrender, remember 1690". In and of itself, this is a significant date in Irish history; it marked the coming of the Protestants to Ireland. Within the gritty photo-realism of the exhibition, it seems inappropriate.

Sure enough, the tone of the exhibition does not leave one buoyed up with confidence in the future of Ireland but, rather void of any feeling of hope and feeling as if you've just seen the umpteenth representation of the never-ending stream of violence that has coursed its way through Irish history.



Jean-Francois Blanchard et René

Ensemble assembles for reunion

by Dan Ahmad

Seventeen years after their break up, *Le Trio Expansible* is reuniting Thursday to take part in the Prim Video Gallery's Focus series.

Robert Lepage, Robert Boudreault and Yves Bouliane formed the improvisation ensemble in 1971, playing European free jazz. One year later they disbanded when guitar player Roger Boudreault left to teach music in Alma, his home town. Clarinetist Lepage and acoustic bassist Bouliane played with other musicians until 1974.

All the members of Le Trio Expansible have been involved in creative musical activities, mostly around Montreal, since the group's breakup.

Robert Lepage is best known for his work with local musicians like guitar player Rene Lussier and saxophonist Jean Derome. He has collaborated with filmmaker Pierre Hebert and made several film soundtracks. The influences you will find in his music are as diverse as swing era jazz, Greek music and post-bop jazz. His latest album *La Traversie de la Memoire Morte* shows a strong film soundtrack aesthetic.

Once a member of the *Quatuor de Jazz Libre du Québec*, Yves Bouliane has been playing the bass since 1969. Recently, he has been working in duets with singer Gail Isseman and in photography and installation art. Last summer, he performed at the Solstice Music concerts with Isseman (and it was great!).

Along with Réné Lussier, André Duschesne and Chris Cutler, Roger Boudreault plays in *Les Quatre Guitaristes de L'Apocalypso-Bar*, which is about to release a second album. He is also involved in the rock group *Madame*.

The Focus series is featuring new and innovative music. In fact, most of this music is so new that one might have trouble finding a name for it. Catch phrases like music actuelle, avant-garde and free music come to mind, yet these are just cups in which to pour many different ideas. In any case, labels seem to serve only to make us feel safer about things mysterious and different.

Taking into account the past work of the Trio Expansible members, I'm betting next Thursday's show will turn out to be a worthwhile reunion. See ya' there.

Le Trio Expansible will be performing Thursday, Jan. 26, 8:30pm, at the Prim Video Gallery (3981 St. Laurent, room 310). Tickets are $6 and information is available at 845-1307.

La Cé

par Élie Castiel

À l'heure où le conservatisme s'étend de plus en plus dans les sociétés, il paraît très peu probable que le désir amoureux entre individus du même sexe puisse retrouver l'acquiescement qu'il a connu il y a peut-être une décennie.

Pour cette raison, *Les Feluettes ou la Répétition d'un drame romantique* se démarque en long et en large de la tendance théâtrale actuelle. Certes, *Les Feluettes* est une pièce sur l'homosexualité et non pas d'homosexualité. Les feux du désir et de la passion, de la fidélité non partagée et du chantage se consument chez les personnages de ce drame écrit par un auteur passionné qui parle de *sa* condition et pas celle des autres.

Le regard est insistant et vise une réalité sexuelle qui, malgré les apparences très souvent trompeuses et tape-à-l'oeil, est assujetie aux mêmes lois de la majorité.

Michel-Marc Bouchard a pris un risque. Il a gagné. On sort de la pièce ébouriffé, surpris, troublé et

Con U student — Maria Jankovics exhibits her paintings at Complex Guy Favreau (Metro level, 276-8116) until January 30.

Polish director — will be present at the release of his film *A Short Film About Killing* at the Conservatory of Cinematographic Art (Hall bldg, 848-3878) on Monday, Jan. 23, 8:30pm.

New
Bear
ti

gnon dans *Les Feluettes*.

rémonie

intensément ému. Et convaincu d'avoir assisté à une expérience scénique inoubliable, un cérémonial baroque où la puissance des sentiments, de la vie et de la mort ont agi sur notre conscient.

En quelques mots - Simon Doucet est depuis longtemps en prison, à cause d'un drame qui s'est déroulé 30 ans auparavant à Roberval. Un événement tragique qu'il serait, ici, injuste de dévoiler.

Pour mettre en scène cette histoire sur les amours (jadis) impossibles, André Brassard a organisé un remarquable décor ambivalent, de la salle de répétition froide et inquiétante d'un collège de début du siècle à la véranda accueillante et ensoleillée d'une terrasse d'hôtel où tout paraît possible.

Les rôles sont tous tenus par des comédiens-hommes. Mis à part quelques personnages qui ne font qu'état de présence, tous les autres possèdent un jeu incisif et une présence courageuse et déterminée. René-Richard Cyr, Yves Jacques et René Gagnon dominent la distribution sans toutefois affaiblir le jeu des autres.

Le regard que l'auteur porte sur les amours masculines est ici innofensif, sans provocation. On sent chez les personnages impliqués une profonde amertume et une révolte intérieure. Car dans cette histoire d'amour et de vengeance, c'est en fait d'isolement et de frustration qu'il s'agit, et aussi de l'impossibilité pour l'individu d'assumer sa propre orientation.

Sans contredit, *Les Feluettes* s'inscrit comme l'un des chefs-d'oeuvre de la scène québécoise des années 80. L'oeil vif et interrogatif de Brassard et la plume circonspecte et agile de Bouchard ont su transcender la simple anecdote et l'ont transformée en une tragique et belle histoire d'amour.

... *la Répétition d'un drame romantique*, au TNM (métro Place des Arts ou Saint-Laurent), du mardi au vendredi à 20h00 et le samedi à 16h00 et 21h00, jusqu'au 4 février.

A worm's-eye view of hell, Hunter and hedonism

by Mitch Albert

P.J. O'Rourke is not the Ugly American; he's a "trouble tourist," a jaded and cynical innocent abroad. If the world is his oyster, he's bypassed the pearls. O'Rourke, now International Affairs Editor at *Rolling Stone* magazine, has experience firsthand the joys, sorrows, and road hazards of many of the most turbulent areas of the globe. The result of his picturesque adventures is Holidays in Hell, a compilation of essays previously published in such mags as *Harper's*, *Playboy*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Rolling Stone*.

O'Rourke came to McGill last week armed with a deadly wit and a sexist streak as long as his writing credits -- both honed by years on the editorial staff at *National Lampoon* and expense accounts for his beloved gin and tonics (as well as the occasional gram of cocaine). He researches not so much the issues raging in Lebanon, South Korea, Nicaragua, etc. (although he does that quite well), as he explores the universal aspects of humanity that lead to trouble.

The only planet whose characteristics he has a chance to investigate, he writes, is our own. "And Earth's principal features are chaos and war." He became a foreign correspondent because he "wanted to know why life, which ought to be... only moderately miserable... is such a frightful, disgusting, horrid thing for many people...."

O'Rourke writes from a worm's-eye point of view, speaking as one worm among many. And although politically he leans rightward, he is a rational Republican and a lot more level-headed — not to mention funnier — than most liberals.

"Half the world's suffering," he writes, "is caused by earnest messages contained in grand theories bearing no relation to reality — Marxism and No-Fault Auto Insurance, to name two. Earnestness is just stupidity sent to college."

O'Rourke's world is a place where Beirut-coast waterskiers don't worry about sniper fire because automatic weapons are "not very accurate"; of concrete-mad communist states where "government is to life what pantyhose are to sex"; of tiny Latin American countries like Panama, where — "depending on who's talking, 'leftist' can mean anyone from Kim Il Sung to George Shultz," and where revolutionary incidents are provoked by Yuppies in business suits.

It is, however, that same world where the Red Cross gathers up stray Lebanese-civilian limbs; where poor Filipinos live on or in Smoky Mountain (an Everest of garbage); dead Salvadorans are strewn like jetsam on the beach El Playon; Korean students are beaten and gassed by police but continue fighting; and obscenely hypocritical whites speak with affection of black non-citizens, while Soweto is omitted from any map. O'Rourke's own homeland is also savaged, notably in articles about Heritage USA, EPCOT, and Harvard.

At a speaking engagement at McGill last week (where he mostly quoted the book), O'Rourke defended his flippant sense of humour:

"I use humour to bring things back in to proportion, to put them on a human scale. I don't make fun of starving Sudanese or earthquake victims; those things *happen*. I look for folly, the misery people bring on themselves."

O'Rourke treats the world like absurdist theatre; his humour is derived from the tragically absurd.

"The 20th century," he said, "is being fucked up by idealists.

I'm more scared of those who are 'right' than those who are evil."

He by and large skips interviews with "Heads of State or Major Figures" on the assumption that "these people didn't get where they are by being dumb enough to tell reporters the truth."

In a brief but satisfying interview with *the Link*, O'Rourke agreed that noted 'Gonzo journalist' Hunter S. Thompson has influencec his own work, in the sense that Thompson "opened up the field for journalists like me".

He credits Thompson for the innovative way he "lays down word riffs", which O'Rourke does aswell. But while Thompson brings "odd sensibilities to normal circumstances", O'Rourke feels he does the reverse — he is a "normal guy in odd circumstances".

O'Rourke bristled at being lumped in together with the 'New Journalists', who use novelistic techniques and 'probe their subjects psychologically.

He agrees, however, that freedom from straight news reporting allows the creative mode to function with fewer constraints. Nevertheless, he remains "objective in the sense that I only write about what I'm told or what I've seen or heard," using creativity to fuel a wit that "reveals my personality along with the facts."

Indeed, O'Rourke's style is just-the-facts, ma'am with a thick layer of editorializing. That he plays the accidental tourist so well does mask the importance and — yes, profoundness — of what he has to say.

ARTS

eration — The play contemporary elec- zz at Reggie's (Hall bldg, l floor, 848-7430) Friday, Jan. 20 and 27.

Haitian painting—seventeen artists works on exhibit in the Salle Wilfred-Pelletier (Place des Arts, 285-4273) until February 5.

Sylvie Readman—*Inventiare d'une image*, a photo exhibit at Oboro (3981 St.Laurent,#499, 844-3520) until February 5.

Désirs-Idées — recent large-size photographic pieces by John Di Stefano at Articule (4060 St. Laurent, #106., 842-9686) until January 29.

Political visuals—...*On Brit-ain's Doorstep* is Stephen Shorti's photographic comment on the situation in Northern Ireland. At Dazibao (4060 St. Laurent, #104, 845-0063) until January 29.

CHEAPSTUFF

continued from page 2

about it. Call *the Link* news department at 848-7405.

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JP Ruby, MD: I've followed your last prescription and it was the first one that's worked... I washed those covers and sold that book. So long, and thanks for all the headaches.

Toaster? what toaster?

Happy "19th" birthday Scottie!!! Beware of wrinkles, hangovers, and VDT monsters. Lotsa love p.a.

Hey Scott! Did you know... the more carnality you partake in, the longer you stay young...

It's all just a joke! I promise!! - EM

ANDY: Get well and cheer up! PS. Can I bite your shoulder again?

Scottie boy: Hei! I did it for you, sweetie Short, sassy and sexy. Just the way you like it. Happy birthday. *--just one of the boys (with bazookas).*

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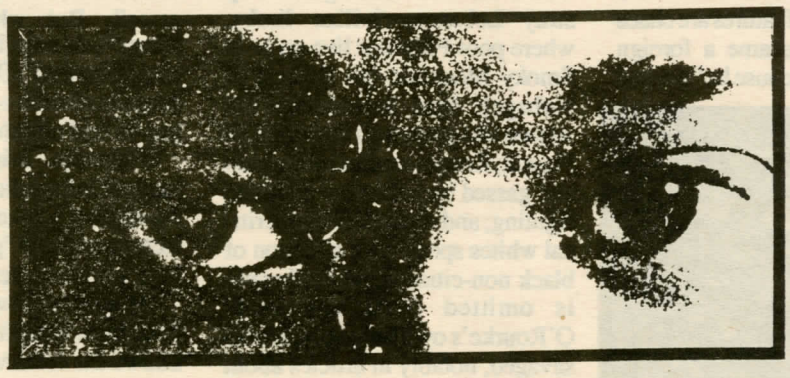

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Concordia University
Montreal, Quebec

Volume 9, Number 27
Friday, January 20, 1989

the Link

Editorial offices:
1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W.
Suite H-649
Montreal, Que. H3G 1M8
Telephone: 848-7405
Advertising: 848-7406

The Link is published every Tuesday and Friday during the academic year by The Link Publication Society Inc. Content is independent of the university and CUSA. Editorial policy is set by an elected board as provided for in *the Link* constitution. (A General Assembly will be held in October to elect the rest of the board.) Any student is welcome to join *the Link* and become a voting staff member. **Mailing address is: 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W., Montreal, Quebec, H3G 1M8.** For national advertising *the Link* is a member of Campus Plus (Canadian University Press Media Services Limited), 124 Merton St., Toronto, Ontario, M4S 2Z2. Phone: (416) 481-7283. Typesetting by *the Link*. Printed by Inter-Hauf Developments. ***The Link* is a member of Canadian University Press, and the Ontario Community Newspapers Association.**

staff this issue: Dan Ahmad, Michel Basolieres, Edward Davey, Tom Donovan, EMMA, Inkle Ewsstaff, Patsy Kline, Mike Orsini, Tara Parkinson, Nancy Sinatra, and many, many, many,many, many thanks to Zeb and Ha.

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Don't forget *Link* staff meeting today, 4 pm.

Enemies of Freedom

Submitting to authority

by Donne Flanagan
Canadian University Press

The FLQ crisis, the Nazi ascension to power in Germany, a growing conservative sentiment among university students—these three items don't immediately seem to share a common thread, but they do. For Bob Altmeyer they all exemplify a disturbing tendancy: society's largely blind willingness to submit to authority.

Altmeyer, a University of Manitoba psychology professor, has studied people's attitudes towards authority for 15 years and doesn't much like what he sees. He traces through history the legal rise to power of the Nazis and the way they manoeuvred to achieve a suspension of the German constitution which allowed Hitler to rule by decree.

"By and large people responded to Hitler as someone who brought law and order," says Altmeyer. But the German people were sadly misled. The human tragedy of the consequences of Nazi Germany cannot be measured nor easily expressed.

In October 1970 the Front de libération du Québec, a revolutionary separatist organisation kidnapped Pierre Laporte, a Québec cabinet minister (whom they later killed), and James Cross, a low-ranking British official, demanding the release of 50 political prisoners. When police couldn't find the FLQ after a week, the Trudeau cabinet invoked the War Measures Act.

"(It gave the government) the same powers as Hitler got. Canadians lost all civil liberties... (And) the vast majority of Canadians approved," says Altmeyer. He says this indicates there's a fair parallel of how the German people acted in 1933 and Canadians in 1970.

"In times of apparent national crisis it is pretty easy to get people to give up their rights if the government says it's best," he says.

He adds that between the stories of Hitler's rule and the implementation of the War Measures Act, only the endings are different. Trudeau restored civil liberties, Hitler never gave them another thought.

From Altmeyer's past he recalls other instances of authoritarianism gone awry. During Vietnam, the American civil rights movement, Kent State, My Lai, the Chicago Democratic convention—like the FLQ crisis—all were cases of unconscionable authoritarian behaviour. Altmeyer reluctantly admits, though, during the October crisis he too agreed with the government's actions, "just like 90 per cent of the population."

It is worrisome how easy it is to suspend civil liberties in a country like Canada, even temporarily. What's more worrisome is how willing people are to accept such impingments on their freedom.

Over the past 15 years Altmeyer has tested the attitudes of students at the University of Manitoba towards authority. Not only do students strongly tend to submit to power, this tendency is getting stronger. Between 1973 and 1988 students' average scores on Altmeyer's scale have risen 20 per cent.

In his research, Altmeyer uses questionnaires which confront students with various hypothetical situations. In those situations, the test subjects have to decide whether or not to obey an official source of authority on issues such as censorship, sex or crime.

The War Measures Act gave the government the same powers as Hitler got. Canadians lost all civil liberties...and the vast majority of them approved.

The research is based on questionnaires one of Altmeyer's student gave to armed forces recruits at a basic training camp in Nova Scotia in 1977.

In that study, researchers found that 76 per cent of Canadian soldiers interviewed said they would obey if ordered by the Prime Minister to close down the House of Commons and suspend civil liberties.

If in such a situation, more than 90 per cent of the soldiers also said they would arrest MPs trying to break into the Parliament and 63 per cent said they would shoot demonstrators who refuse to disperse.

The results and analysis of Atlmeyer's 15-year examination are in his newly-released book, "Enemies of Freedom: Understanding Right-Wing Authoritarianism."

In it he defines authoriarianism with three criteria. The first is the willingness to submit to established authority. The second is believing and following the norms and conventions in society, because one simply believes them to be right.

"But the most frightening for me is the agression—open hostility to a group singled out by authority. Like Jews under the Nazis—or now in Guatemala and Pinochet in Chile," stresses Altmeyer.

He is not interested, though, in studying those who rise to power under authoritarianism. "It's not too difficult to understand why someone would want to be a dictator... It's basically the law of the playground," he says.

His research has led to several other findings. There is a connexion between political affiliations and authoritarian attitudes—PC supporters tend towards high authoritarian scores, NDPers tend to score low, with Liberals in the middle. But the relation is weak.

"In countries like the Soviet Union right now, the authoritarians are the hard line doctrinary communists... people resisting Gorbachev's reforms of perestroika and glasnost would tend to be most authoritarian and status quo oriented. People who want to reform and change the system, I would bet, would be less inclined toward authoritarianism," he says.

Altmeyer's life experiences, he says, have made him value personal rights and freedoms. Self-described of poor "hillbilly stock" from the mid-western United States, his family's poverty meant no one cared about what he did as a child. This gave him great freedom. "I get spiny when people tell me what to do... (So) I want to find out why people would give up their freedom," he says.

The causes of this authoritarian orientation are obviously complex, but Altmeyer says they basically boil down to a person's experiences with authority and how it's affected them.

If, for example, in high school you saw fellow students punished too severely for their actions you might have seen this as an injustice and begin to question authority in your life—especially if you were on the receiving end of the punishment.

"On the other hand," says Altmeyer, "if you never see that injustice, you might have a rosy view of authority."

Varied personal experiences also play a role in changing people's attitudes towards the status quo and authority, according to Altmeyer. "As a whole, authoritarians don't like homosexuality," he says.

But when asked if they know any lesbians or gay men, very often they will say they don't—but statistically this claim is unlikely (gay women and men constitue about 10 per cent of the population). If they get to know gays and lesbians, says Altmeyer, the experience tends to lower their hostility.

Altmeyer found similar results when testing students' sexual attitudes. He found low-level authoritarian people tend to have had at least two or three sexual partners by the age of 18 or 19.

But more interesting results are found with the highly authoritarian people. The women tend not have premarital sex but the males, says Altmeyer, are "just as big a set of tomcats as the low (authoritarian) males and females."

Here, the authoritarians show one of their major characteristics - hypocrisy. While authoritarian men often believe premarital sex is wrong, they are not celibate themselves.

Altmeyer says this is an example of a thought process common to high-score authoritarians—they rationalize double standards.

But people have suspected this correlation for a long time. This is especially true of artists and writers, says Altmeyer, citing the likes of Faulkner and Tennessee Williams, and even Gary Trudeau's *Doonesbury* comic strip. And, in fact, according to University of Winnipeg statistics professor Alexander Basilevsky, it's basically common sense.

"(Altmeyer's) results make sense... authoritarianism is based on fear and insecurity," he says. And feelings of fear and insecurity can explain much of the authoritarian's actions.

But Basilevsky doesn't think authoritarianism could be answered with this sort of experimental basis. "It's like acid rain. You couldn't come to conclusions on the effects from the basis of experimentation."

As far as statistics go, Basilevsky says, what Altmeyer's research has come up with is a yardstick to measure authoritarianism. So, Altmeyer has come up with the answer to "What is authoritarianism." Basilevsky thinks it would be more interesting to find out "why" it is.

But all this work and worry about authoritarianism. Is it so bad? Aren't there any good things to say about it? Perhaps, says Altmeyer. After all, Adolf Hitler did build the Autobahn.

"We may want trains to run on time, but authoritarians put the damndest things on them—like Jews to Auschwitz."

Link Staff Meeting

Come celebrate Scottie's birthday and join in the scintillllating conversation about CUP 51 (What does Tequila Action! mean?), 1989 HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE, the upcoming ORCUPbeq regional, plans for the Beast's funeral, Lacolle in the Wintertime, *Link* boycott list, hugs and no more boozing in the office.

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